

OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Fire Engineering Division

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**SPECIAL EFFECTS FIREWORKS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Universal Studio

Members Present:

Mike Richwine, Division Chief
Caroline Fudge, SFM Program Assistant
Al Adams, Technical Assistant
Tony Guevara, Program Coordinator
Cal Acord, Warner Bros. Studios
Gary Brown, Pyro Spectaculars
Tassilo Baur, ASEPO (for Jon Belyeu)
Dennis King, AMPTP
Chuck Hughes, NBC Studios
Don Martin, Universal Studios
Harold (Mickey) Aronson, Disneyland Entertainment
Craig Canfield, Burbank Fire Department
Thaine Morris, M.P. Associates

Members Absent:

Russ Laurie, Western Pyrotechnic Association
John Belyeu, ASEPO
Kevin Brueckner, Fireworks America
Larry Shipp, Los Angeles City Fire Department
George Jackman, De La Mare Engineering, Inc.

Guests:

Tom Newman, Pyrotechnician
Thomas Richards, LA Co. Fire Department
Tim Vanderlip, LA Co. Fire Department
Frank Ledesma, LA Co. Fire Department

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:38 hours by Chief Mike Richwine, Chairperson of the Special Effects Fireworks Advisory Committee.

I. ROLL CALL

Roll call of the Advisory Committee Members was conducted.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Self-introductions of committee members and guests were not conducted at this meeting.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Patty McKinnon is retiring as of July 1, 2005. Chief Grijalva has appointed Tony Guevara as the Fireworks Program Coordinator. Marc Yepez has been assigned to the Fire Retardant as the Program Coordinator; Randy Roxson has been re-assigned to Chief of Code Development.
- Committee Membership
- Chief Grijalva is working on improving communication, bring State Fire Training up to speed, work on Fireworks management and code adoption work plans to achieve.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM November 10, 2004

*****Action item:** Chairperson Richwine asked that the minutes be held until revisions have been completed and hold to approve until next meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- **Unlicensed Assistances-** Will use in house language. High Power Rocket is affected by this. Draft an example letter.
- **Firework Forms-** Pre-Display Report and Post-Display Report reports were discussed. Pre-Display Report we will research use and discussion with legal to protect from Public Records Act Requests as "Trade Secret Information". Look over reports to see if changes need to be made.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- **Develop Interim Flamethrower Policy**
- **Flamethrowers**
- **Establish Meeting Dates for Regulations Workgroups**
 - a) Flamethrower – Tassilo Baur and Tony Guevara meeting on Tuesday, March 22, 2005, 10:00 a.m. at NBC Studios. State Fire Marshal (SFM) will contact interested parties and Department of Justice for Representatives at meeting.
 - b) Special Effect Pyrotechnic Operator Exams meeting – Chuck Hughes and Al Adams, meeting on Tuesday, March 8, 2005, 9:30 a.m. at NBC Studio.
 - c) Fireworks Proximate Audience – Al Adams, Tony Guevara, Tassilo Baur and Frank Ledesma from LA Co. Fire Department, meeting on Tuesday, March 8, 2005, 1:00 p.m. at NBC Studio.

- **New Roster of Workgroups**

All Special Effects Advisory Committee Workgroups, Theatrical Experience, Proximate Audience, Pyrotechnic Exam, Unlicensed Assistants & Letters of Reference and Flamethrowers, will get an updated list with emails.

- **Safe and Sane Regulations**

- a) Clean up copy and distribute to all committee members for input. Add Unlicensed Assistants and Reference letters to package.
- b) Provide members with copy of Office Administration Laws process. (Rodney Slaughter presentation)

- **Future Legislation**

- a) Clean up Importer/Exporter, Dangerous Fireworks and Classification.

VII. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

- Radio remote control/hobby radios, draft an “Information Bulletin” for the industry. Hobby radio’s are not for professional use.
- Labeling of Dangerous Fireworks **Help me out with one Chuck if you can.**

VIII. Next Meeting Date

Tuesday, May 17, 2005, 10:00 a.m. at NBC Studio